

Response to Office Action
Docket No. A0856

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (currently amended): A method for selling information to a buyer,
2 the method comprising:
3 receiving an offer from a buyer for ~~[[the]]~~ information ~~[[including]]~~ that
4 includes at least one contingency ~~from the buyer, wherein each contingency that~~
5 provides an uncertainty ~~regarding~~ that an event related to the information will
6 occur;
7 providing the information from a seller in response to the offer, the
8 information ~~[[includes]]~~ including at least one condition about the at least one
9 contingency, wherein satisfaction of each condition provides a premise upon
10 ~~which fulfillment of~~ resolves the uncertainty to satisfy at least one of the
11 contingencies ~~depends and triggers at least part of a payment from the buyer, and~~
12 wherein the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the information is provided;
13 and
14 receiving a first part of the payment ~~for the information for the seller upon~~
15 the satisfaction of the at least one condition for the contingency after the
16 information has been provided to the buyer and the buyer has subsequently
17 determined that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency
18 has been satisfied by the event having occurred.

1 2. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further
2 comprising receiving a base payment as the first part of the payment when the
3 information has been provided to the buyer.

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1 3. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further
2 comprising adjusting an amount for the first part of the payment based on a
3 probability that the condition for the contingency will occur.

1 4. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 3, further
2 comprising:
3 selecting an announced probability for the condition ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the
4 uncertainty to satisfy the contingency; and
5 determining the amount for the first part of the payment based on a
6 function which uses the announced probability for the condition for the
7 contingency occurring.

1 5. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein
2 the amount of the first part of the payment is maximized when the announced
3 probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as a true
4 probability for the condition occurring.

1 6. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further
2 comprising setting the condition ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the
3 contingency in the received offer.

1 7. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 6, further
2 comprising:
3 sending a counteroffer to the buyer based on the offer, the counteroffer
4 providing the condition set ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the
5 contingency to the buyer; and
6 determining if the counteroffer with the condition set ~~for the contingency~~
7 is accepted by the buyer, wherein the information is only provided upon the
8 condition set ~~for the contingency~~ being accepted.

1 Claim 8 (cancelled).

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1 Claim 9 (cancelled).

1 10. (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein
2 one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1 11. (currently amended): A system for selling information to a buyer,
2 the system comprising:

3 a receiving system that receives an offer from a buyer for ~~[[the]]~~
4 information ~~[[including]]~~ that includes at least one contingency ~~from the buyer,~~
5 ~~wherein each contingency that~~ provides an uncertainty regarding that an event
6 related to the information will occur;

7 a source for the information that provides the information in response to
8 the offer, the information ~~[[includes]]~~ including at least one condition about the at
9 least one contingency, wherein satisfaction of each condition provides a premise
10 upon which fulfillment of resolves the uncertainty to satisfy at least one of the
11 contingencies ~~depends~~ and triggers at least part of a payment from the buyer, and
12 wherein the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the information is provided;
13 and

14 a contingent payment processing system that receives a first part of the
15 payment ~~for the information upon the~~ satisfaction of the at least one condition ~~for~~
16 ~~the contingency~~ after the information has been provided to the buyer and the
17 buyer has subsequently determined that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to
18 satisfy the contingency has been satisfied by the event having occurred.

1 12. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2 comprising a base payment processing system that receives a base payment as the
3 first part of the payment when the information has been provided.

1 13. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein
2 the ~~[[first]]~~ contingency payment processing system adjusts an amount for the

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3 first part of the payment based on a probability that the condition ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve
4 the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency occurs.

1 14. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 13, wherein
2 the ~~[[first]]~~ contingency payment processing system selects an announced
3 probability ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the condition for the
4 contingency and a function for determining the amount for the first part of the
5 payment based on the announced probability for the condition for the contingency
6 occurring.

1 15. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 14, wherein
2 the ~~[[first]]~~ contingency payment processing system maximizes the amount of the
3 contingent payment when the announced probability for the condition occurring is
4 substantially the same as a true probability for the condition occurring.

1 16. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, further
2 comprising a condition setting system which sets the condition ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve
3 the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency in the received offer.

1 17. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 16, further
2 comprising:

3 a counteroffer system that sends a counteroffer to the buyer based on the
4 offer, the counteroffer provides the condition set ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty
5 to satisfy the contingency to the buyer; and

6 purchase decision system that determines if the counteroffer with the
7 condition set ~~for the contingency~~ is accepted by the buyer, wherein the
8 information is only provided upon the condition set ~~for the contingency~~ being
9 accepted.

1 Claim 18 (cancelled).

1 Claim 19 (cancelled).

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1 20. (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein
2 the receiving system receives the offer and the source of the information provides
3 the information electronically.

1 21. (currently amended): A computer readable medium having stored
2 instructions for selling contingent information which when executed by a
3 processor, causes the processor to perform:
4 receiving an offer from a buyer for ~~[[the]]~~ information ~~[[including]]~~ that
5 includes at least one contingency ~~from the buyer, wherein each contingency that~~
6 provides an uncertainty regarding that an event related to the information will
7 occur;

8 providing the information from a seller in response to the offer, the
9 information ~~[[includes]]~~ including at least one condition about the at least one
10 contingency, wherein satisfaction of each condition provides a premise upon
11 ~~which fulfillment of~~ resolves the uncertainty to satisfy at least one of the
12 contingencies ~~depends and triggers~~ at least part of a payment from the buyer, and
13 wherein the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the information is provided;
14 and

15 receiving a first part of the payment for the information for the seller upon
16 the satisfaction of the at least one condition for the contingency after the
17 information has been provided to the buyer and the buyer has subsequently
18 determined that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency
19 has been satisfied by the event having occurred.

1 22. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 22, further
2 comprising receiving a base payment as the first part of the payment when the
3 information has been provided to the buyer.

1 23. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 22, further
2 comprising adjusting an amount for the first part of the payment based on an

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3 announced probability that the condition ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty to
4 satisfy the contingency will occur.

1 24. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 23, further
2 comprising:
3 selecting the announced probability for the condition for the contingency;
4 and
5 determining the amount for the first part of the payment based on a
6 function which uses the announced probability for the condition for the
7 contingency occurring.

1 25. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 24, wherein
2 the amount of the first part of the payment is maximized when the announced
3 probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as a true
4 probability for the condition occurring.

1 26. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 21, further
2 comprising setting the condition ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the
3 contingency in the received offer.

1 27. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 26, further
2 comprising:
3 sending a counteroffer to the buyer based on the offer, the counteroffer
4 providing the condition set ~~[[for]]~~ to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the
5 contingency to the buyer; and
6 determining if the counteroffer with the condition set ~~for the contingency~~
7 is accepted by the buyer, wherein the information is only provided upon the
8 condition set ~~for the contingency~~ being accepted.

1 Claim 28 (cancelled).

1 Claim 29 (cancelled).

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1 30. (currently amended): The medium as set forth in claim 21, wherein
2 one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1 31. (new): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the information
2 from the seller in response to the offer is provided without a payment from the
3 buyer.

1 32. (new): The system as set forth in claim 11, wherein the information
2 from the seller in response to the offer is provided without a payment from the
3 buyer.

1 33. (new): The medium as set forth in claim 21, wherein the
2 information from the seller in response to the offer is provided without a payment
3 from the buyer.